



Dear Colleagues:

Since its launch on September 20, 2010, the [Public Health Law Network](#) has worked to build relationships, deliver technical assistance and provide training and education for lawyers, public health practitioners, advocates and policy-makers seeking to use law to improve the public's health.

The [Western Region Office](#) of the Network at Arizona State University and the University of New Mexico offers technical assistance to practitioners in Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, Utah, and Washington. We also provide technical assistance nationally on the topical areas of [Emergency Legal Preparedness](#) and [Tribal Public Health Law](#).

We have already responded to over 60 technical assistance requests in the form of formal memorandums, webinars, e-mail correspondence, telephone guidance, and other tools to help guide requestors. We have provided responses on diverse public health law topics, including:

- The potential impact of the U.S. Supreme Court Decision, *Bruesewitz v. Wyeth*, regarding vaccination design defects (a blog on the topic can be found by clicking [here](#));
- Development of a national model for local public health legal preparedness with partners at NACCHO and CDC;
- Volunteer health practitioners' liability during a declared emergency;
- Regulation of medical marijuana which led to the creation of a table identifying state approaches to regulation medical marijuana available [here](#);
- Legal issues affecting local entities involved in the distribution of medical supplies from the Strategic National Stockpile during an emergency;
- Legal approaches states have taken to allow retired healthcare professionals to volunteer their expertise during an emergency; and
- States' confidentiality statutes that apply to quarantine and isolation proceedings.

The Western Region and our Network colleagues have also provided legal commentary through the national Network's blog, available by clicking [here](#).

We look forward to working with you to use law to protect the public's health. If you have any questions or would like to submit a technical assistance request, we are available [online](#), [email](#), or by phone at (480) 727-2092.

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